

## Post Shorts

### Recycling schedule

Recycling pickup for Wednesday, March 10, is paper. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

### Briefings planned for APG Garrison

Three work-force briefings for all post employees of APG Garrison and Soldier and Biological Chemical Command are scheduled on Friday, March 5. Two will be held at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, from 9-10 a.m. and 10:15-11:15 a.m. The third will be held at the Post Theater in the Aberdeen Area from 1-2 p.m. Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of SBCCOM and APG, will be introduced. Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG Garrison commander, will present a garrison and Commercial Activities Study update. For more information call the CA Core Team at 410-278-4800.

### Youth sports registration starts

The Aberdeen Area Youth Center is holding gymnastics registration for children ages 2 and up for the spring session through March 11. Classes start March 13 and will be held every Saturday through May 15. Registration fee is \$35. Classes for ages 2-4 begin at 9 a.m.; ages 5-7 begin at 10 a.m.; ages 8 and up begin at 11 a.m. For more information on the gymnastics program or the Aberdeen Youth Sports Program, call Bill Kegley, 410-278-4995. Edgewood Area Youth Services is holding registration for baseball, softball and T-ball through March 13. Cost is \$30 per person; family discounts are available. For more information, call Norma A. Warwick, Youth Sports director, 410-436-2172/2862.

### MCSC plans to donate funds

The Aberdeen Area Military and Civilian Spouses Club will donate funds to organizations and charities this spring. Groups interested in receiving funds should submit requests in writing and include the organization to receive the funds, the manner in which the funds will be used, and a contact person for the organization (name, address, and telephone number). Submit requests by April 1 to Marlys Wallman, 3801 Hazel Ct., Abingdon, MD 21009.

### Pizza delivery offered in EA

Anthony's Pizza in the Edgewood Area delivers to homes and barracks on post (Edgewood Area only) Monday-Friday, 5-7 p.m. To place an order, call 410-671-6198.

### Are you ready to PCS?

Army Community Service Relocation Office will offer a free PCS Germany workshop for military, civilian personnel, retirees and family members, taught by an instructor from Harford Community College. The workshop will be held Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m., March 31-May 26, at the ACS classroom, building 2754, Rodman Road. Learn the basics of German I-German II, the basic vocabulary, grammar, and expres-

See SHORTS, page 2

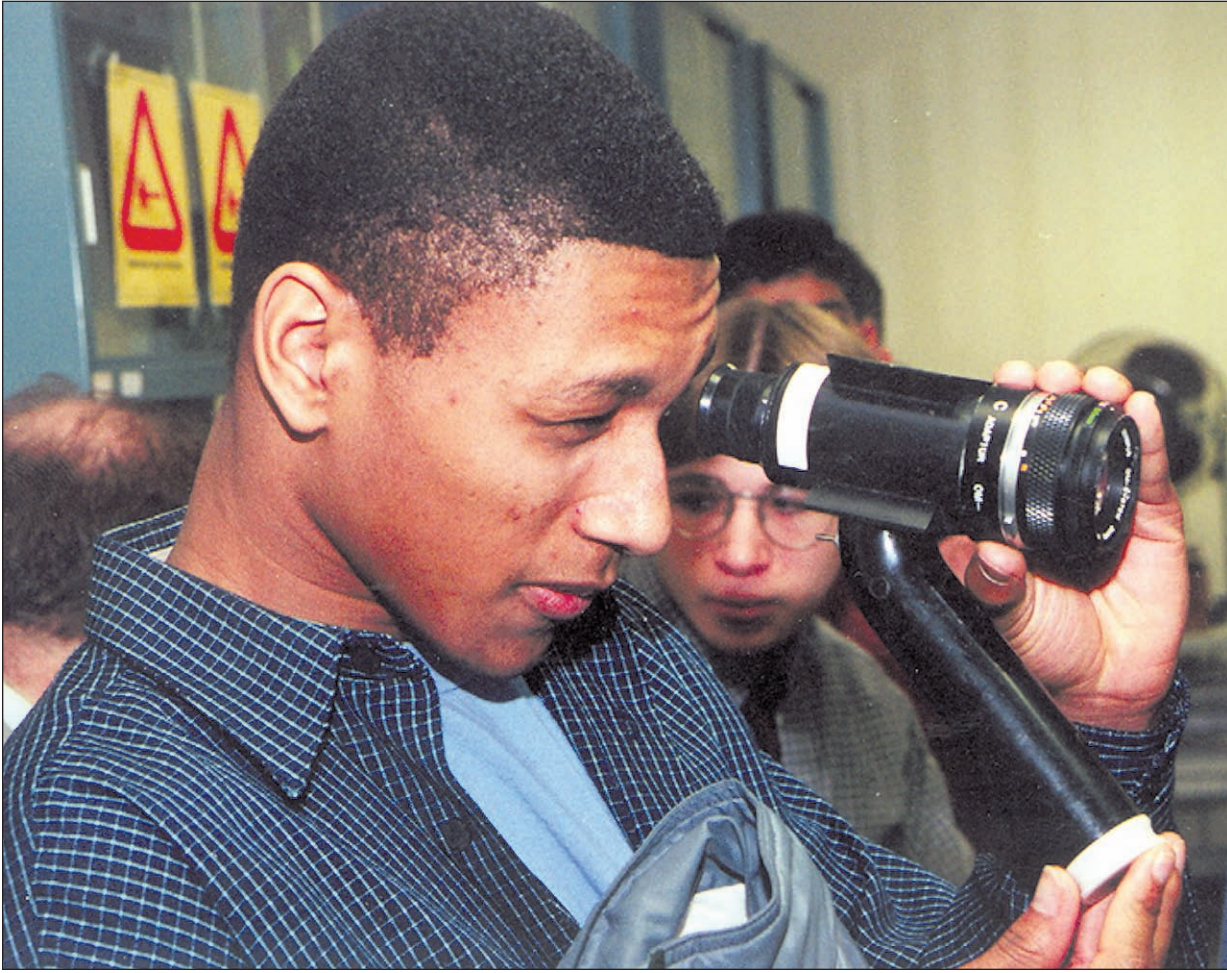


Photo by NEAL SNYDER

**Shaun Robinson, a Bel Air High School junior, examines a laser through an infrared scope at the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine laser laboratory during Engineer for a Day.**

## Local students study life as engineers for a day

By Neal Snyder  
USAEC Public Affairs Office

Power drew Paul Josephson to become an engineer.

"I liked the idea that you could understand scientific processes well enough that you could really do something," said Josephson, a Clean Air Act compliance project officer with the U.S. Army Environmental Center.

Josephson was one of five USAEC engineers who teamed up with Harford County high school students during the annual Engineer for a Day program Feb. 25.

Sponsored by the Susquehanna Chapter of the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers, Engineer for a Day involved more than 90 students from high schools throughout Harford and Cecil counties.

Engineers and scientists from Army organizations throughout Aberdeen Proving Ground - and civilian firms in the area - participated.

The USAEC engineers and their students shared an informal breakfast with Col. Edward W. Newing, USAEC commander, and Lt. Col. Thomas M. Frendak, USAEC chief of staff. They then joined a group from the U.S. Army Center for Health

### Organizations from APG, Harford County participate in educational program

Engineers and scientists working for organizations throughout Aberdeen Proving Ground and Harford County took part in the Engineer for a Day program. Participants included:

U.S. Army Environmental Center  
U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine  
Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Directorate of Public Works  
U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity  
U.S. Army Research Laboratory  
U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command  
U.S. Army Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization  
Harford County Department of Public Works  
Sytek of Havre de Grace  
Frederick Ward and Associates of Bel Air  
Thiokol Corporation of Elkton  
Peco Energy Co. Conowingo Visitors Center  
J.M. Huber of Havre de Grace

The Susquehanna Chapter of the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers sponsors Engineer for a Day as its primary activity during National Engineers Week, said James D. Wood, the program's co-chairman. According to Wood, program manager for ambient air quality management for CHPPM, the chapter was founded by APG engineers, and the majority of its members still work on the proving ground.

Promotion and Preventive Medicine. The group visited a CHPPM laser lab, toured the Abingdon Water Treatment Plant, and watched a presentation on the Geographic Information System, an international information gathering tool.

The day finished with a luncheon for all participants at Harford Community College.

At breakfast, Josephson told

the students he became an engineer because engineers receive the respect early in their careers that other professionals must earn over time. Right out of college, he said, "you are actually prepared to do something that people highly value."

After the visit, Josephson said the students were very interested in what they saw.

See ENGINEERS, page 7

## Program seeks potential in new recruits with GED's

By Gary Sheftick  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON (Feb. 24, 1999) — After missing this fiscal year's first-quarter recruiting goal by 2,300 soldiers, the Army is taking a look at accepting more recruits with high school equivalency degrees.

"This notion that quality is defined by being a high school diploma graduate has put us in a box that is really hurting our ability to recruit," Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera said. The Army has many fine soldiers now with GEDs, Caldera said, explaining that young people with GEDs shouldn't be barred from military service if they can demonstrate the "desire and the ability to be successful."

Caldera has directed Assistant

Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Patrick Henry to develop a pilot program to look at recruits with GEDs. Henry said the program will study ways "high potential" GED holders might be identified.

The pilot program will not be a "quick fix" for recruiting shortfalls, officials said, but is instead designed to provide benefits for the Army years into the future.

"The Army is committed to recruiting and maintaining a quality force," Henry said.

"Earning a GED should not preclude otherwise qualified and motivated young men and women from serving our nation in uniform," Henry said. "They have taken the initiative to earn a recognized high school equivalency,"

See GED, page 7

## Discrimination has no place in the military

By E.C. Starnes  
Ordnance Corps Corporate Affairs

The statement was simple and straight forward: "The mission of the U.S. Army is to fight."

Thus began the story of "Blacks in American Military History" as related by Dr. Alan L. Gropman, chairman of the Department of Grand Strategy at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. Speaking before an audience at the Post Theater Feb. 22 as part of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School's African-American/Black History Month recognition, he noted that

warriors are needed in today's world.

"If the lion were to lay down with the lamb and the lamb wasn't bothered by it, we wouldn't be needed," he said. "And the essential foundation of warriors is cohesion. Cohesion is everything. In fact, it's the only thing."

The notion of cohesion in the Army starts the very first day. Discrimination destroys cohesion, Gropman said. "You won't lay down your life for someone who discriminates against you."

The Army, Gropman said, has

See HISTORY, page 4

## Volunteers needed at several locations

By Meghan Heimbach  
APG News

Are your children in school, and you have some extra time in your day or week? Are you interested in volunteer work? Aberdeen Proving Ground may be the answer you have been looking for.

Volunteers are needed for several post organizations, and if you want to make a difference, all you have to do is call.

Army Emergency Relief, locat-

ed in building 2753, is looking for an office assistant for 6-12 fixed hours per week, to assist the AER officer with clerical support. Duties include in- and out-processing of soldiers, filing, making copies, mailing receipts, and light typing. Training is provided. For more information contact Marge Fissel, at 410-278-2508.

The Freestate Challenge Academy in building 5469 is looking for two volunteers to fill

See VOLUNTEERS, page 12

## Environmental permits approved for facility

### 'ABCDF' will safely destroy mustard agent

By Kathy DeWeese  
Edgewood Chemical Activity

The Army has reached another milestone in its mission to safely destroy the obsolete mustard agent stored in steel containers at Aberdeen Proving Ground's Edgewood Area since the 1940s.

On Feb. 22 Maryland Department of the Environment and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued the environmental permits required to construct and test the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ABCDF). The pilot facility will use chemical neutralization followed by biotreatment to safely dispose of more than 1,600 tons of the blistering compound.

"Moving forward with the support of our community to safely eliminate the chemical stockpile is our primary focus," said Lt.

See FACILITY, page 4



Post Shorts

SHORTS, from front page

sion of German. Students will also learn about German culture, history, food and customs.

To register, call Marilyn Howard, relocation manager, ACS Office, 410-278-3137. Space is limited.

Videos are available at ACS during normal duty hours for loan or viewing at ACS. Availability of tapes are limited. PCS tapes show what to expect from an assignment and provides information for soldiers and families who are relocating.

The 30-minute tapes include Germany, Korea, Alaska, Hawaii, Japan, Italy, Johnston Island, Malmstrom AFB, Carlisle Barracks, and Peterson AFB. "Families in Transition" explains common areas of stress during a PCS move and recommends ways to reduce that stress. SITES computerized information booklets are available for many CONUS and OCONUS installations.

Family Child Care training set

Family Child Care training will be conducted the week of March 15-19. Interviews will be held on March 8, 9 and 11. Applicants interested in providing home-based child care, especially in the Edgewood Area, are encouraged to apply. For applications, call 410-278-8720. Bring a professionally trained provider in a warm home environment offers many benefits: free training in a marketable occupation; credit transfers to Army installations world-wide; free use of toy lending library; free referrals by Central Registry; free monthly newsletter; free workshops (nutrition, child psychology, CPR, tax assistance); participation in the National CDA credential program; participation in the USDA food program; and self employment. For more information, call Gail Smith, 410-278-7477/8720 or Kathy Reese, 410-436-2692/3355.

Garden Shop opens March 6

The Aberdeen Proving Ground PX Garden Shop will hold its annual grand opening on March 6, 9 a.m. Roses, bedding plants and everything for lawn and garden will be available. A representative of M.V. Springs will be on hand to present a fishing demonstration. Door prizes will be awarded and vendor representatives will be available for questions and answers.

Sign language starts March 10

A class in sign language will begin March 10. It will be held Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., in classroom 207, building 3147. The instructors will be Kim Skrutski for the beginning students, and Pat Reeves for intermediate/advanced students. This course will accommodate those who do not know sign language and those who have studied sign language before and need a refresher. Students will be placed in the appropriate class based on ability. This class will continue for 13 weeks and each person must attend 10 sessions to receive class credit. Those enrolling who want to receive credit for the class must complete DD Form 1556 and have their supervisor sign the form. If you have questions concerning the completion of the form, you can complete it during the first session. For questions, e-mail Randy K. Weber, rweber@ocs1.apg.army.mil; Reeves, patricia.reeves@SBCCOM.APGEA.ARMY.MIL, 410-436-2917; or Skrutski, kskruts@apg-emh1.apg.army.mil.

Health plan benefit information offered

A claim representative of the Service Benefit Plan (Blue Cross/Blue Shield) will visit APG on March 9, through an arrangement by the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. The representative will be available from 9-11:30 a.m. in building 305, room B-14 (lower level) and in building E-4420 from 12:30-1:30 p.m., to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary. For more information, call Kathy Anderson, 410-278-2649, or Teri Wright, 410-278-4331.

Power outage set for March 13

A power outage is scheduled for March 13, 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m. This outage will affect all buildings in the 5400 block. The Aberdeen Area Projects Section will perform switching on the 4 KV lines. The Quality Control persons are Joe Dugan and Ed Isom.

This outage is required so Directorate of Public Works personnel can replace a broken pole in the 4 KV power lines. Only the organization listed above is authorized to perform work on this outage.

Point of contact within DPW Engineering and Construction Division, Quality Assurance Branch, is James Kirk, 410-278-8693. This outage may be canceled if the tempature is 32 degrees or lower.

Purchase request schedule set

The following schedule has been established for the submission of purchase requests for Fiscal Year 1999 for the Army Materiel

Command Acquisition Center:

- Noncommercial Items over \$100,000 - June 1
- Noncommercial Items between \$2,500 and \$100,000 - July 1
- Commercial Items between \$100,000 and \$5 million - July 1
- Short-of-Award over \$2,500 - July 1
- Commercial Items under \$100,000 - Sept. 1

Submission of requests after the scheduled dates will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Refer questions to Joyce Roberts, APG Branch (e-mail: jrobert@apg-emh1.apg.army.mil), 410-278-0869; or chief, Edgewood Branch (e-mail: arbaker@apgea.army.mil), 410-436-2554.

Red Cross has classes scheduled

A Community First Aid and Safety Class will be held March 19, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$25. Upon completion you will be certified in first aid for three years and community CPR for one year. For information, call Carolyn Lerwill at 410-278-2087.

Block leave set for band

The 389th Army Band will not be available for commitments from July 6-22, because of training and summer leave. Any questions regarding scheduling should be referred to Judy Michalski, 410-278-2711.

AA meeting held at chapel

An Alcoholics Anonymous support meeting is held Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Aberdeen Area Chapel Center in the Social Hall.

Reunion information sought

Anyone remember Albert Czyzewski and family? He worked in BRL at APG; retired in 1979. The family lived in Havre de Grace. Relative seeking information about family for reunion. Please call R. Leigh at 304-728-4873 (charges accepted), write to: P.O. Box 235, Rippon, W.V. 25441, or e-mail to: rleigh@ix.netcom.com.

Administrative assistant needed

An organized professional is needed to work in APG's New Parent Support Program. Three years of experience in office administration or related secretarial experience required. Must be proficient in word-processing, database and spreadsheet and type 40 w.p.m. For immediate consideration, fax resume with cover letter to J&E, 301-650-4136, Attn: AA/NPSP, E.O.E., M/F, D/V.

Centralized IMPAC e-mail address

In an effort to service IMPAC customers more efficiently, the U.S. Army Materiel Command Acquisition Center has established a centralized e-mail address exclusively for all IMPAC inquiries and requests. The IMPAC site shall be monitored daily; and all AMCAC responses shall be forwarded via e-mail. Submit all IMPAC concerns to creditcard@apg-emh1.apg.army.mil.

Irish meal planned March 16

The annual Irish Specialty Meal will be held March 16 at post dining facilities, 5:30-7 p.m. During this event all military, family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine. The post dining facilities are located in buildings 4219 and 4503 in the Aberdeen Area, and building E-4225 in the Edgewood Area. The menu includes corned beef, beef pot pie, savory baked chicken, grilled Reuben sandwiches, parsley buttered potatoes, mashed potatoes, fried cabbage, and assorted vegetables, breads, desserts and beverages.

The standard meal rate of \$3 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and family member of sergeant or above, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and their guests. The discount meal rate of \$2.45 applies to spouses and other family members of enlisted personnel in ranks private through specialist/corporal and members of organized non-profit youth groups at either the national or local level and permitted to eat in the dining facility by the commanding officer of the installation. For more information, 410-278-9389/2164/2059.

Scout Troop seeks former members

Former members of APG Scout Troop 429 are invited to the troop's 50th anniversary celebration on April 30. Those interested in attending should supply an address to Dean Kolker, 410-273-0985. The troop will welcome photos and memorabilia from earlier years.

Military Pay Office adopts schedule

The Defense Military Pay Office joins the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison work force in following the compressed work schedule. The office will be open Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m.-5:30

p.m. (closed from noon-12:30 p.m. for lunch); first Friday of the pay period, 7 a.m.-noon (closed after noon for training); and second Friday of the pay period, closed.

Ordnance Ball set at Redstone

Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., will host the 1999 Ordnance Ball at the arsenal's Redstone Club on March 19, 6 p.m. For tickets and information, call (256) 876-6697, DSN 746-6697.

Play bingo on post

The post recreation centers hold bingo four times a week. The Aberdeen Area Recreation Center has bingo Wednesdays, 7 p.m., and Sundays, 2:30 p.m. For details, call 410-278-2621. The Edgewood Area's Stark Recreation Center holds bingo Thursdays, 7 p.m., and Saturdays, 6:30 p.m. For details, call 410-436-2713.

Summer program for youth planned

The Child Development Center and Youth Services are accepting pre-registration for the full-day summer program, which will operate for eight weeks from June 28 through Aug. 20. Children enrolled in grades 1-9 are eligible for the program. Pre-registration forms are available at both Youth Centers and Child Development Centers. The AA CDC is located in building 2485; the EA CDC is located in building E-1901. The AA Youth Center is located in building 2522; the EA Youth Center is located in building E-1902. The CDC and Youth Center priority for care policy is in effect for the summer program. Patrons on this list who turn down a position (when it is offered) will be removed from this list. Activities planned include swimming, sports, skating, movies and field trips. For questions, call Rita Wilkins, director, School-Age Services, 410-278-2572

EAOWC offers scholarships

The Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club will offer a \$1,000 youth scholarship on behalf of the USPA and IRA Educational Foundation. The EAOWC also will offer \$500 scholarships, two to high school seniors and one to a currently enrolled full-time college student. To be eligible, one must be the child of an active-duty, retired or deceased service member, who will be attending college during the 1999-2000 school year. Applications may be obtained at all Harford County high schools, the EA Thrift Shop, the EA Library, or by calling Evelyn Atchison, 410-297-8558. The EAOWC will donate \$500 for a spouse scholarship for a spouse of active duty, retired, or deceased military members. Applications must be received by April 2. Winners will be notified by early May.

MCSC to offer scholarships

The Aberdeen Area Military and Civilian Spouses Club (MCSC) will award three higher education scholarships this spring. A \$1,000 college education scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior who is the child of an active duty, retired, or deceased service member or DoD civilian. A scholarship from the USPA&IRA educational foundation will give \$1,000 to a service member's child who is entering or continuing education in an undergraduate college program. The recipient will be determined by the MCSC. The club also will award \$500 to a military spouse entering or continuing a college education. Applications are available in the Aberdeen Area library, Post Office and Thrift Shop, and through the local high school guidance office. For more information, contact Ellen May, MCSC scholarship chairperson, 410-297-8387. Application deadline is April 1.

Blood drive set for April 6

Sign up for the Red Cross blood drive on April 6, 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Aberdeen Area Chapel. Call 410-278-2087 to make an appointment.

Platelet donors are urgently needed at the Red Cross Apheresis Center on APG. When you give platelets, you give a child with leukemia another birthday - another chance at life. Call 410-278-9125 to make an appointment, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Recruiting team seeks volunteers

The U.S. Army Recruiting Command's Recruit The Recruiter Team is looking for top NCOs from sergeant through sergeant first class who are looking for one of the Army's most challenging and rewarding jobs. If you qualify, volunteer and receive an assignment, you will receive extra pay, incentive awards, assignment preference, career enhancement and job satisfaction. For a phone interview regarding qualifications, call (800) 223-3735, then dial extension 60215, 60105, 60234, 60210 or 60231. You can also use DSN 536- (and last four of any extension). Check the website at www.goarmy.com/recruiter.

APG News

The *APG News*, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the *APG News* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command. The newspaper is published weekly by the TECOM Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSTE-PA, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5055, (410) 278-1150. Printed circulation is 13,500.

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RETIREE CORNER

Veterans Administration

Donald Santos, military service coordinator for the Veterans Administration Regional Office in Baltimore, comes to Aberdeen Proving Ground several times a month to provide assistance to veterans, retirees, and active duty soldiers and their family members. He will be available by appointment only in building 310, wing 3B, on March 8 and 24. To schedule an appointment with him, contact the Army Career and Alumni Program Office, 410-278-9669.

Veterans Benefits help line numbers

If you need help with your veterans benefits, call the hot line in your state - 1-800-827-1000, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday. For help with education benefits, call 1-888-GI BILL 1 (1-888-442-4551), or check www.va.gov/education The toll-free number and WEB site provides information on VA education benefits 24 hours a day/seven days a week. There is the ability to ask questions or send an inquiry. You can obtain information on your own benefits account if you receive Montgomery GI Bill benefits. You may also speak with an education case manager Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

For help with home loans, call 1-800-933-5499 or 1-540-857-2135. For the Small Business Administration, call 1-800-827-5722.

Job assistance

The Maryland Job Service Veterans Job Assistance satellite office is located in building 310 wing 3B, 410-278-8669. The office is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The main office is located at 2 South Bond St., Bel Air, 410-836-4603. The Veterans Job Assistance Office will assist you in locating jobs, applying for those positions and sending you on interviews. Assistance also is available for preparing resumes and job applications. Computers are available in the office to locate positions both locally and world-wide. Numerous job listings are posted for federal, state, county, and private company positions.

Income tax help

If you, as a retiree or an annuitant, whose retired pay or SBP (Survivor Benefit Plan) is taxable and have not received your IRS Form 1099-R, contact Defense Finance & Accounting Service - Cleveland Center at 1-800-321-1080 or (216) 522-5955. Do not wait until time to file your taxes - do not wait until the last minute.





# Walkers, joggers, cyclists must follow post policy on use of headphones

By **Susie Ashby**  
*Installation Safety Office*

Spring is supposed to be close, although some days it seems doubtful. At any rate, it will eventually warm up and cabin fever will turn to spring fever. Walking and jogging enthusiasts will be sharing the roadways with motorists again, taking lunchtime jaunts to relieve the pent-up frustrations directly linked to the cold, windy days of Winter ‘99.

An important fact for people interacting with vehicular traffic is to wear reflective material to enhance visibility by motorists during the peak hours of semidarkness. Reflective material or tape, to make yourself more easily seen by motorists, can be found at most hardware stores. Joggers and walkers must also follow the basic principles of pedestrian safety such as using side-walks, crosswalks, and yielding the right-of-way. When there is no sidewalk joggers must travel against vehicle traffic flow, on the road’s shoulder and not in the path of traffic. Cyclists must travel with the vehicular traffic flow.

When headphones are introduced into this formula, the potential for hazards arise. There is an “inner world” created by headphones that makes wearing them dangerous while walking, jogging, bicycling and driving. Wearers can’t hear loud warning signals like sirens, train whistles, or car horns. They focus inward and tune out visual cues, as well. By contrast, a person who is actually hearing-impaired compensates by becoming more visually alert throughout his or her lifetime.

Further, it is against AR 385-55, Prevention of Motor Vehicle Accidents and APGR 385-4, The APG Safety Program, to wear headphones while jogging, walking, bicycling, or driving a motor vehicle.

In the end, a handful of safety precautions will make these hazardous combinations on the roadway safer for both joggers, walkers, cyclists and motorists alike. The most important detail to remember is when a motorist can’t see a pedestrian or cyclist, or the pedestrian or cyclist can’t hear the oncoming vehicles by being unaware of their surroundings, a road tragedy has a great potential to develop.

## Want the latest post news?

Listen to the **APG Report** on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:08 a.m. and 4:08 p.m., on Aberdeen’s WAMD radio station, 970 AM.



## AROUND THE ARMY

# Army announces fraternization policy

By **Sfc. Connie E. Dickey**  
*Army News Service*

WASHINGTON - A new Army policy on fraternization took effect Tuesday (March 2), giving officers and enlisted soldiers who are now dating one year to marry or end their relationship.

The new “good order and discipline” policy revises Army Regulation 600-20. Besides restricting personal relationships between soldiers of different ranks, it also limits private business deals between officers and enlisted soldiers. While the policy does not prohibit transactions such as selling a car or renting a house, it does restrict the lending of money or entering into long-term business partnerships. Business relationships, which were allowed under the old policy, are exempt until March 1, 2000.

Secretary of Defense William Cohen directed in July 1998 that all services align their fraternization policies. The Army’s “Good Order and Discipline Policy” is a direct result of that directive, officials said, and not only applies to

relationships between soldiers, but also relations of Army personnel with service members in other branches.

Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Patrick T. Henry, said the new policy reflects the need for the military services to have standard policies because of the increasingly joint character of modern military missions.

The policy immediately prohibits officers and enlisted soldiers from beginning any new romantic relationship. However, if the relationship existed prior to March 1, officials said the soldiers have until March 1, 2000 to get married, break up or face the consequences.

The policy also prohibits relationships between permanent-party soldiers and initial-entry trainees, whether stationed on the same post or not. It prohibits romantic relationships between recruiters and potential recruits, without regard to where the applicants live or where the service member is stationed.

In fact, the new policy prohibits any relationship between soldiers of different ranks if the relationship appears to compromise supervisory authority, or could result in impartial treatment. Relationships are prohibited if they appear to involve the improper use of rank or position for personal gain. Relationships are also forbidden if they will have an adverse impact on unit morale or the ability of a command to accomplish its mission.

Officials said the new policy is not intended to preclude normal team building such as community organizations, family gatherings, unit-based social functions or in any way limit athletic competition. Unit-based social functions include picnics, hails and farewells, right arm night and bring-your-boss night.

“I want to stress that the Army has always emphasized the importance of sound professional interpersonal relationships to the success of Army missions,” Henry said.

“The nature and structure of

our Army demands that officers and enlisted work together in teams and units under trying circumstances. Unit cohesion is essential to build the confidence and trust necessary for units to fight and win on the battlefield. Good, professional leadership and common sense will make these new policies work for the good of the Army,” he said.

Relationships between Reserve Component members are exempt from the new policy if the relationships are primarily based on civilian acquaintanceships. Personal relations between Regular Army and Reserve component soldiers are also allowed, with the same stipulation. However, officers and enlisted soldiers cannot date if either are on active-duty tours or serving in full-time Guard or Reserve positions.

The new policy gives commanders at company-level the authority to prohibit relationships that compromise or appear to compromise the integrity of authority or the chain of command.

# Electronic town hall to showcase defense reform

By **Paul Stone**  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON — Service members and civilians can gain new insights into the Defense Reform Initiative during a live, interactive, electronic town hall meeting here March 4 to be broadcast by satellite and made available via the Internet. Called “Defense Reform, Partnership in Excellence,” the broadcast will be hosted by Deputy Defense Secretary John Hamre and feature a panel of senior DoD leaders. The broadcast is designed to update the military community on defense reform progress and to share ideas, according to Mary Margaret Evans, deputy director of DoD’s Defense Reform Office. She said viewers can participate by telephoning or faxing in questions and having them answered during the broadcast.

“It’s important for all of DoD to hear about defense reform efforts and for us to hear about what those in the field are thinking,” Evans said. “That’s why we’re making this interactive. We’re hoping to get strong audience participation.”

The Defense Reform Initiative, announced in November 1997, is a long-term strategy to incorporate successful civilian business practices into the way DoD conducts its business affairs.

Community and base televisions can receive the satellite broadcast from the GETN network. Visit the web site at [www.acq.osd.mil/dau/arcc/sbsched.html](http://www.acq.osd.mil/dau/arcc/sbsched.html) for information. The broadcast will run from 11:30 a.m. EST and end at 1 p.m. Telephone and fax lines to receive questions will be open during the entire broadcast. Call-in numbers

are 800-879-3166/2166. The fax number is (202) 408-4977.

“We hope this broadcast will send a message to everyone that Mr. Cohen (Defense Secretary William Cohen) wants their help in defense reform efforts,” Evans said. “It’s a great opportunity for those who deal with defense reform issues to get more involved and become part of the process.”

Anyone with Internet access, a sound card and speakers can participate at a desktop computer. The Internet address is: <http://134.152.222.100/Starlive/default.asp>. Information on how to set up computers for viewing is available at DoD’s Acquisition Reform Web site: <http://www.acq.osd.mil/acqweb/vsc>. For more information on locations other than the Internet to view the broadcast call: (888) 747-ARCC.

COMMENTARY

## Surgeon general sets record straight on anthrax vaccine

By Lt. Gen. Ronald R. Blanck  
*Army Surgeon General*

In January, I had the opportunity to set the record straight and discuss DoD’s anthrax vaccination program with two prominent critics on the Internet talk show Defense Watch hosted by a Seattle newspaper reporter.

The other guests on the show were misinformed in at least three areas:

- They thought the vaccine had never been used before. The fact is, it’s been in use for many years by both civilian and military agencies to protect people whose work exposes them to natural anthrax. Thousands of people have been vaccinated with no major problems. This vaccine has been licensed by the FDA since 1970.

- They believed we had no evidence on the effectiveness of the vaccine against anthrax that is inhaled, which is the most likely form of contact with anthrax used in a weapon. In fact, there are many studies that show the vaccine is effective against inhalation anthrax.

- They also thought the FDA had questioned the quality of the vaccine production facility and that some of the vaccine we used was outdated. Again the fact is, the FDA has certified the quality of all the vaccine produced. Every batch of vaccine used by the military is tested and approved by both DoD and the FDA. The deficiencies identified at the production facility were with record keeping, and these are being corrected.

Army Times recently commented that “the services have seemed to do little to try to quell the fears of the dis-senters.” On the contrary, there

has been an unprecedented effort to inform service members and their families through briefings, brochures, newspaper articles, the Internet and other media.

Still, the truth has to compete with suspicion, fear and paranoia. This is not unlike stories circulating that minorities’ right to vote is about to be taken away, or that travelers are in danger of being drugged and having their kidneys stolen for transplants. Some people prefer to believe that their government is deliberately making service members sick.

Service members and their families need to know that the anthrax vaccine is safe, and is a necessary protection against a probable threat. The American people need to know that what we are doing is right. To ensure the proliferation of this message, we all have to be sources of accurate information.

All of us need to know the facts and correct misstatements. If you see an inaccurate media report, write a letter to the editor or call that talk show.

One of our greatest sources of information is the Internet. However, it’s also a source of misinformation about the anthrax vaccination program. Anyone can create a Website and post anything on it, without verification and often without evidence. Rumors and myths can spread through bulletin boards and chat rooms without any controls.

The best and most accurate information is available at [www.armymedicine.army.mil](http://www.armymedicine.army.mil) and [www.defenselink.mil](http://www.defenselink.mil). I use them and I suggest you use these sites and publicize them to everyone interested in national defense.

# Black soldiers have proud history

*HISTORY, from front page*

the best equal opportunity system around, but it’s not perfect. He recounted the history of black Americans serving in the military and related accounts of discrimination that is a part of that history.

He also worked to dispel myths of black military service. When he asked the audience to name a black soldier who served in the Revolution, the immediate response was “Crispus Attucks.” Gropman quickly noted that Attucks was killed 61 months before the Revolution and never served as a soldier. He informed the audience to read Benjamin Quarles’ “Blacks in the American Revolution” to learn more about real heroes like Peter Salem, who was at Concord Bridge when the “shot heard around the world” was fired and who fought on the hills around Boston.

Gropman explained that despite their service during the Revolution, blacks were barred from the Army until the War of 1812. By 1813, he noted, “whites deserted in such great numbers they had to turn to blacks.” Some 600 blacks fought in the Battle of New Orleans.

The Civil War again found the nation turning to the black population for soldiers. In 1862, Gropman said “at any one time, one-third of the Army were deserters.” So, in 1863, the Union began to recruit black men and by the end of the war some 186,000 African-Americans served in uniform.

He noted that 12.3 percent of the Union Army was filled by a group that accounted for less than 1 percent of the nation’s population.

“Black desertion rates were practically zero,” Gropman explained. Black soldiers earned 19 Medals of Honor and in April 1865 there were more blacks soldiers in the Union Army than there were soldiers in the Confederate Army.

Blacks continued in military service as the nation moved west. The most well-known black units fighting in the west were the 9th and 10th Cavalry. The 10th Cavalry was called “Buffalo Soldiers” by Native Americans and the 9th adopted the same name. Also fighting in the west were the 24th and 25th Infantry.

There were 10 black commissioned officers, including Lt. Henry Ossian Flipper who was pardoned by President Bill Clinton last month of a charge of conduct unbecoming an officer. Flipper was the first black graduate of West Point and was serving at Fort Davis, Texas, when he was court-martialed for embezzlement and received a dishonorable discharge. In 1976 the Army changed the discharge to honorable, but could not change the

outcome of the court-martial. The pardon was signed by the President in a ceremony at the White House.

Black soldiers serving at this time had the “lowest desertion rate” of all those serving in the Army. Gropman said the next best unit had 10 times the desertion rate.

Gropman noted that American filmmakers and Hollywood have long portrayed a false image of the west as it pertains to black soldiers and frontiersmen.

“Twenty-five percent of the cowboys on the Chisolm Trail were black. Dodge City was one-fourth black. Yet, you never saw a black man on ‘Gunsmoke.’ And, I’ve even seen a movie about the 10th Cavalry where all the soldiers were white,” he said.

He recommended that the audience read “The Buffalo Soldiers” by William Leckie for a scholarly account of their service.

Gropman said “every black unit was further west than any white unit in 1898, but they were the first to go to war in 1898. The 10th Cavalry went up San Juan Hill ahead of Teddy Roosevelt.” The 10th also went on to fight in the Philippines as the Spanish-American War became the first global campaign.

But when World War I began, “The War Department was so distorted by discrimination,” said Gropman, “that they wouldn’t let the 9th and 10th Cavalry serve.”

He went on to note that 13 percent of the draftees were black. Of all the people drafted, 15 percent asked for deferments and 80 percent got them, and about 100 percent of the requestors were white.

The Tuskegee Airmen of World War II represented the tradition of service established by the Buffalo Soldiers, he said. From May 1944 to April 1945 the 332d Pursuit Squadron flew 200 escort missions, 10,000 sorties and never lost a bomber it was protecting. It shot down 111 German planes.

“No white unit that flew more than 30 missions was better,” noted Gropman.

Yet squadron members faced discrimination when they came home. Col. Robert Selway, who commanded one of the pursuit squadrons before Benjamin O. Davis, had dreams of becoming a general. He wanted a bomber group and got the 477th Medium Bombardment Group.

“He knew the record of service of blacks because the Tuskegee Airmen had taught him,” he said. “But he showed his bigotry when he again took command of the all-black unit.”

When he moved with the group to Indiana, he built two officer clubs - one for whites and

one for blacks.

“There were 12.5 million people under arms, 600 Army posts, and only the 477th does clubs that way,” he said. In addition, Selway asked that the Air Force make it policy worldwide.

On April 5, 1945, about 100 black officers entered the “white” club. Sixty-one were arrested and their picture appeared in the New York Times. On April 9, Selway called the unit in to sign the club regulation, which stipulates that all blacks are trainees and not entitled to use the white supervisors’ club. He ordered the black officers to sign a copy of the regulation and a statement that Selway did not discriminate in the club.

“He reminds them,” said Gropman, “that they can be shot for disobeying an order in wartime.”

They refused and Selway arrested them all. There were now 162 people under arrest. In the end all but three got letters of reprimand and one was court-martialed for striking the provost marshal and was fined \$150. On April 11, the first fatal flying accident in the 477th occurs. Four more happened in the next week.

“Selway destroyed the 477th,” Gropman said. “He was canned for discrimination. Selway was a personal bigot. Personal bigotry is a problem.”

He noted that some of these young soldiers grow up in areas where discrimination is practiced.

“There has to be one United States Army, one Army; just one, or it can’t succeed. When discrimination comes up, whether it’s ethnic jokes, bumper stickers, tattoos, you have to jump on it. You have to say, ‘You will not divide my organization,’ ” he said.

He outlined what he felt were the watersheds in the time line of the Army’s fight against discrimination. The first was in 1951 when Gen. Matthew Ridgeway integrated the Army in Korea. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Army’s new policy of putting restaurants, apartment and rental properties, theaters, and other public places “off limits” if they discriminated against black soldiers were important milestones, Gropman said.

In 1971 the Defense Department established a program in response to racial riots. The military, said Gropman, decided it had to put people in an organization specifically to look for bigotry and root it out.

He also noted that the civil rights legislation in the ‘60s was a result of the experiences of veterans working and living together because of the integration of the military.



# What military, their families should know about taxes

Maryland government offers free tax tips to explain filing options and benefits for military families.

“Military personnel can find a handy chart in a free Maryland tax tip brochure and in the state tax booklet to help them determine whether or not they need to file a Maryland income tax return for tax year 1998,” said Maryland State Comptroller William Donald Schaefer. “The brochure also explains additional benefits for military personnel.”

Whether or not military personnel and their spouses need to file a Maryland resident return, a nonresident return, or no return at all depends on their home of record and whether or not they have non-military income in Maryland.

Generally, military personnel who are legal residents of another state and who earned only military income last year are not required to file a Maryland return. However, non-military income earned in Maryland or a spouse’s income earned in Maryland may require filing a Maryland tax return

Military families who have lived in Maryland for more than six months are required to file a state return have a choice in how they file.

“You can either file a joint resident Maryland return, or the civilian spouse with Maryland income can file a separate return. If the spouse files separately, the military spouse may not be required to file a Maryland return,” Schaefer said “You should figure your taxes both ways to see which filing status is best for you.”

Among the Maryland tax breaks available to military personnel are:

Overseas pay. Military taxpayers who received overseas active duty pay during 1998 may be able to deduct up to \$15,000 of that overseas pay from their income for Maryland income tax purposes. If your total military pay

exceeds \$30,000, you do not qualify for his subtraction.

Retired enlisted pension. Retired enlisted military personnel residing in Maryland, with a federal adjusted gross income of \$22,500 or less, may exclude up to \$2,500 of their military retirement income from state tax. To qualify, the taxpayer must have been at least 55 years of age on the last day of 1998 and must have been in an enlisted grade at the time of retirement.

Two-income tax break. Military families where both spouses work should not overlook Maryland’s two-income tax break on line 16 of Maryland Form 502. Married couples filing a joint return when both have income may subtract tip to \$1,154.

Child care deduction. The cost of child care can be one of the largest expenses for working families, but Maryland offers a tax break on the state income tax form that helps cut the burden. To calculate the Maryland deduction for eligible child and dependent case expenses, start by determining the amount of you federal child care tax credit on federal Form 2441 or Schedule 2 of Form 1040A. Transfer the amount of child or dependent care expenses (not the federal tax credit) claimed on line 3 of the federal form to line 9 of Maryland Form 502. Taxpayers can subtract actual child care expenses up to \$2,400 for one child or \$4,800 for two or more children.

Low income benefits. At least 330,000 individuals could benefit from expanded earned income credits on their Maryland and federal income tax returns this year. Maryland’s earned income credit can eliminate the state tax liability for eligible taxpayers and even generate a tax refund for some individuals. This year, for the first time, families are eligible to get the Maryland benefit even if their income isn’t high enough to require them to file a tax return. However, they need to file a tax form to get the benefit.

“All of these benefits are available to taxpayers even if they don’t itemize deductions,” Schaefer said.

Electronic filing. Taxpayers can now file electronically for faster refunds. For the first time, taxpayers who filed a Maryland return last year can file from home computers using approved software. Professional tax preparers can also file clients’ returns electronically.

Free tax tip brochures. The Comptroller’s Office offers several, easy-to-read brochures to help military taxpayers, including:

- Tax Tip #55 - Filing facts for military personnel and their families: lists the filing requirements for military personnel based on their type of income and Maryland residency.
- Tax Tip #57 - Filing your Maryland return electronically: explains the advantages of electronic filing.
- Tax Tip #50 - Families and Maryland income taxes: explains the low income tax credits and several other state tax breaks available on the Maryland return for families.

The brochures are free of charge at any of the comptroller’s 20 taxpayer service offices, from the comptroller’s website at [www.marylandtaxes.com](http://www.marylandtaxes.com) or through the agency’s Forms-by-Fax system at 410-974-FAXX (410-974-3299).

Free help available. Free, in-person state tax assistance is available at any of the comptroller’s taxpayer service offices Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Taxpayers can also call 410-260-7980 from Central Maryland (or 1-800-MD TAXES from elsewhere) for free state tax assistance weekdays from 8 a.m.-11 p.m. The telephone numbers and addresses are listed on the back of the Maryland tax booklet as well as in most local telephone directories.

The comptroller’s website at [www.marylandtaxes.com](http://www.marylandtaxes.com) also

offers state tax forms and publications, answers to commonly asked questions and directions to the 20 taxpayer service offices. Taxpayers can also e-mail their tax questions to the State

Comptroller’s Office 24 hours a day, seven days a week at [tax-help@comp.state.md.us](mailto:tax-help@comp.state.md.us). “You can even get tax forms by e-mail at [forms@comp.state.md.us](mailto:forms@comp.state.md.us),” Schaefer said.

Taxpayers can also check the status of their refund on-line by using the comptroller’s website or by calling 410-260-7701 from Central Maryland or 1-800-218-8160 from elsewhere.

## Unit tax advisors offer free tax help for post organizations, retirees

The following unit tax advisors can provide free tax help to active duty military personnel and their dependents:

**143d Ord Bn, A Co**  
SSG BENJAMIN L. CONNOR  
410-436-4443

**143d Ord Bn, B Co**  
SFC WILLIAM COLLINS  
410-436-4212  
2LT MICHAEL POTTRATZ  
410-436-4212

**143d Ord Bn, HHC**  
SFC JOHNNIE GATLIN  
410-278-4848  
SSGT ANTHONY D. MASON  
410-436-5339

**16th Ord Bn, A Co**  
1LT JASON LODGE  
410-278-8732

**16th Ord Bn, B Co**  
1LT MARTIN MCLAUGHLIN  
410-278-5445

**16th Ord Bn, C Co**  
1LT KARL BRUECKNER  
410-278-5455

**16th Ord Bn, E Co**  
SPC CHARLOTTE OTORUBIO  
410-278-3979

**16th Ord Bn, HHC**  
SFC HARRY B. ANDERSON  
410-278-4422  
1LT MARTIN A. GRIFFITH  
410-278-8594  
SSG PATRICK MCGRATTAN  
410-306-1526  
SFC LAWRENCE D. SMITH  
410-278-2553

**16th Ord Bn, MSD**  
SSG CHARLES GILLIAM  
410-278-9886

**16th Ord Bn, TSED**  
SFC CARL LAKSHMANAN  
410-278-3444

**203d MI Bn**  
CPT MARK J. STAUD  
410-278-7800

**389th Army Band**  
SGT KEITH D. CALMES  
410-278-8769  
SGT JANINE STILLWELL  
410-278-8769

**520th TAML**  
SSG ALFONSO CLEMMINGS  
410-436-7268

**61st Ord Bde, HHC**  
SSG LEROY BENNETT  
410-306-5770  
SSG LEONARD FARLOW  
410-278-2957  
SGT BANGURA KHA-BENNEH  
410-278-5041

SSG DARRUN E. MURPHY  
410-306-3010

**61st Ord Bde, HQ**  
CW3 RICHARD L. KRAUSE  
410-278-3170

**AMSAA**  
SFC LUIS M. EMMANUELLI  
410-278-8735

**ARL, WMRD**  
LTC VERNON TAYLOR  
410-306-0663

**CHPPM**  
1LT TANYA KITTELL  
410-436-5476

**DENTAC**  
SPC CAROL HARDIE  
410-278-1795

**KUSAHC**  
SGT ANDREW J. IGNATZ  
410-278-1870  
SSG RANDY G. RIGGS  
410-278-1958

**MRICD**  
CPT JAMES DAVIDSON  
410-436-2463

**NCOA, ANCOC**  
SFC WILLIAM BUTTRAM  
410-306-4108

**NCOA, BNCOC**  
SFC OFELIA WEBB  
410-278-3920

**TEU**  
1LT CHRISTIAN HILL  
410-436-1882

**USAF**  
SSG JERRY L. CARPENDER  
410-278-9882

**APG Garrison, DLES (MP)**  
SFC WAYNE D. GREENLEAF  
410-306-0562

**APG Garrison, HST**  
SSG FIDEL DIAZ  
410-278-2104  
SSG RICHARD GUTIERREZ  
410-278-7358

**APG Garrison, HST/ATC**  
SGT JESSE M. SCHMIDT  
410-278-5605

**USMC**  
GY SGT K.R. BROWNING  
410-278-9261  
SSGT RICKY A. COOLONG  
410-278-2831  
SGT MICKEY E. GIBSON  
410-278-8559  
SSG TODD I. MASON  
410-278-0606

**Volunteer, Edgewood**  
DENISE DOESBURG  
410-436-6092/3044

**Volunteer, Tax Center**  
MICHAEL R. O’HERN  
410-278-3397

**Volunteer, Tax Center**  
Chief Warrant Officer 3 (Ret.)  
HOWARD SWINK  
410-278-3397

# Groundbreaking is April 24 for destruction facility

**FACILITY, from front page**  
Col. Joseph E. Pecoraro, product manager for Alternative Technologies and Approaches at APG. “The permits will allow the Army and its contract teams to begin construction activities, which is truly a giant step in disposal of the mustard agent stored at Aberdeen Proving Ground.”

Construction is scheduled to be complete by the year 2002. After construction is complete, a 12-month period of equipment and system testing and worker training will commence, followed by nine months of pilot testing.

Based on the pilot testing, the Army will request modifications to the permits to allow for full-scale operations. In addition to other documentation, the Army will prepare an environmental assessment at that time. Actual agent disposal operations are scheduled to begin in late 2003 and last through 2004, followed by a year-long facility closure period.

“We will continue to work closely with regulators from Maryland Department of the Environment and the EPA throughout the life of this project,” said Joseph W. Lovrich, the Army’s ABCDF project manager. “We are committed to working with them toward the common goal of safeguarding

the environment, along with the protection of the workers and the community.”

The permit announcement followed a \$306 million contract award in October 1998 to Bechtel Aberdeen, to complete the ABCDF design, and construct, systemize, operate and close the facility.

“We are very pleased that the state and federal permits for this important national project have been approved,” said Bechtel Aberdeen Project Manager Jan Van Prooyen. “Safety and environmental compliance are two uncompromising aspects of our work. The regulating officials have been thorough and professional in their review, and we look forward to their continued involvement in every phase of the project’s duration.”

A groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for April 24, 11 a.m. More information will be forthcoming on that event.

The Army encourages the community to learn more about its plans to eliminate the chemical stockpile stored at the Edgewood Area. The Edgewood Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office is located at 1011B Woodbridge Center Way, Edgewood, MD 21040, or phone 410-676-6800. On the world wide web, visit this site: <http://www-pmcd.apgea.army.mil>.

## PATS ON THE BACK

### Military personnel honored

The Good Conduct Medal was presented to the following OC&S personnel:

Spc. Kareem A. Brown SSgt. Donald Brown (third award), SSgt. Richard A. Carullo (third award), SSgt. Manuel Ceballos (fifth award), SSgt. Benjamin L. Connor (fifth award), Spc. Robert L. Dize, Sfc. Edward L. Fields (fifth award), SSgt. Michael B. Forrest (third award), Sfc. Mitchell D. Glove (fifth award), Sgt. James S. Leach (third award), Master Sgt. Elvis C. Lee (sixth award), SSgt. Luke B. Lepard (fourth award), Sfc. Willie B. Martin (fifth award), Sgt. Anthony J. Rayner and Sfc. Anthony N. Smith (fifth award).

### National Guard honors personnel

Members of the Maryland Army National Guard Mobilization AVCRAD Control Element were presented awards from Col. James Taneyhill, unit commander.

The Army Commendation Medal was presented to Capt. Edward V. Boris (one oak leaf cluster), CW4 Franklin Leonard (one OLC), Sfc. Anthony D. Romano, CW4 Charles Spicer (two OLC) and CW4 William M. Zeller (one OLC). The Meritorious Service Medal was presented to Master Sgt. Stanley Baldwin, Maj. Walter R. Hurt and Master Sgt. Elaine S. Tucker. The Army Achievement Medal was presented to Capt. Antonio Framarini, Maj. Timothy Gowen, Spc. Mercedes McClure and Pfc. Heather Richardson.

Maj. Walter R. Hurt and Master Sgt. Elaine S. Tucker recently retired.

## SPORTS

# Intramural teams continue basketball competition

The following results were reported from the Intramural Basketball League for the week ending Feb. 25:

Hoyle Division		American Division		Results	
Standings		Standings		Feb. 22	
HHC 143rd	12-1	HHC 61st	10-3	KUSAHC, 31	NCOA, 57
B Co. 143rd	9-4	NCOA	10-3	HHC 16th, 48	HHC 143rd, 38
A Co. 143rd	8-4	HHC 16th	8-5	HST, 25	HHC 61st, 30
MRICD	4-8	KUSAHC	7-6	Feb. 24	
SCBCOM	2-10	HST	3-10	HHC 143rd, 27	KUSAHC, 28
520th	2-10	HHC 143rd	1-10	HHC 16th, 49	HST, 41
Results				HHC 61st, 30	NCOA, 52
Feb. 22					
MRICD, 25	520th, 43				
SCBCOM, 27	A Co. 143rd, 30				
B Co. 143rd, 30	HHC 143rd, 47				
Feb. 24					
520th, 29	SCBCOM, 24				
A Co. 143rd, 45	B Co. 143rd, 36				
HHC 143rd, 65	MRICD, 36				
Schedule					
March 1					
6:30 p.m., A Co. 143rd v s. MRICD					
7:30 p.m., 520th vs. HHC 143rd					
8:30 p.m., B Co. 143rd vs. CBDCOM					
March 3					
CBDCOM vs. MRICD					
HHC 143rd vs. A Co. 143rd					
B CO 143rd vs. 520th					
March 4					
6 p.m., USMC vs. E Co. 16th					
(make-up game)					

## SPORTS SHORTS

### Coaching positions open

The APG Sports Program is accepting applications for post-level coaches in softball, volleyball and soccer. Post-level teams participate in the Washington Area Military Athletic Conference and play in round-robin tournament format on weekends only. Once coaches are selected, player recruitment will take place. Applications are available in all gyms and the APG Sports Office; or, call Marni Allison, APG sports director, 410-278-4497.

### Apply for All Army Triathlon Team

Any active duty soldier interested in participating on the All Army Triathlon Team needs to submit an application to the Sports and Fitness Office in building 3320 by March 12. Read AR 215-1, section 20c-4, which reviews standards for All Army participation. Pick up applications at the Sports Office or any APG gym. For more information, call Marni Allison, 410-278- 4497.

### Evening golf league planned

Sign-ups for the Ruggles Evening Golf League are being accepted. Teams may request to play in the Tuesday or Wednesday night league with returning teams receiving preference. The league starts in mid-April and play will continue weekly until Labor Day. League play consists of nine holes played at Ruggles with a 5:05 p.m. shotgun start. Teams may consist of up to five members, with two players participating in the weekly match. Only those eligible for annual patronage at Ruggles are eligible (APG civilians, military, retirees from military or government service, DOD contractors working on post). Dues are expected to be close to last year’s (\$110) and individuals are responsible for green fees. For information contact Larry Burton, 410-306-0767, e-mail: [coach@arl.mil](mailto:coach@arl.mil).

### CWF softball meeting scheduled

The Aberdeen Area Civilian Welfare Softball League will meet on March 10, 5 p.m., at the Bullpen at Colonel’s Choice Restaurant, located on Route 40 in Aberdeen. Those interested in participating may contact the AA CWF softball commissioner, Joe McKeever, at 410-278-7706. Games are played at the Marylander Softball Field on post.



# NECPOC to offer class on management issues

The Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center Human Resources Development Division will host the two-day seminar “Emerging Issues in Public Management” at Aberdeen Proving Ground July 21 and 22, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

This course will be conducted by The Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Center for Public Policy Education, Washington, DC 20036-6000. This course is open to all activities and installations serviced by the NECPOC.

- Sample session topics include:
- **The Balanced Budget:** What are the issues and opportunities as we move from deficit-reduction to surplus distribution?
  - **The Government Performance Results Act:** What are the latest in agency strategic plans, outcome measures, and performance plans? What are the perspectives from Office of Management and Budget, Government Accounting Office and Congress on using GPRA for performance based budgeting and managing change?
  - **Defense Budget Issues, Impact of the Quadrennial Defense Review:** The latest on Department of Defense downsizing and re-engineering efforts.
  - **Franchising, PBOs,**

**Comparative Public Management Reform:** An overview and assessment of government reform initiatives in other countries compared to those in the United States.

This seminar is intended for employees GS-13s and above. Tuition is \$675 plus travel and per diem to APG. All costs must be borne by the nominee’s organization. Fully funded DD Form 1556s should be mailed to: Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center, ATTN: SFCP-NE-T (Karin Hancock), 314 Johnson Street, APG, MD 21005-5283, by April 2. Advance copies may be faxed to 410 306-0163. Class size is limited to 50. Students will be notified of their acceptance.

Include the following information on DD Form 1556:

Block 19a: The Brookings Institution  
Block 19b: 1775 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Center for Public Policy Education  
Washington, DC 20036-2188  
Block 19c: Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD  
Block 25: \$675  
Block 27: Must reflect complete accounting classification \*  
Block 29: Must be signed  
Block 37: Enter the address to

whom invoices should be mailed.

NECPOC can accept IMPAC card charges if authorized on the DD Form 1556. If you wish to charge to the government purchase card, provide the 16-digit purchase card account number, plus the purchase card expiration date and the name of the purchase card holder. Do not send a copy to the vendor; NECPOC will take care of providing copies to the vendor after selections are made. You may add the purchase card in Block 27 of the copy of the DD Form 1556 you are sending or send it on a separate sheet of paper.

Initiators of training requests using the TRAIN FPI should enter the DCPDS number 505639.

As this course has been built in the catalog the course title of EMG ISSUE PUBLIC MGT vendor THE BROOKINGS INST should have populated the training request.

Training Sponsor: Enter 4  
Start Date/Time: Enter 21 Jul 99 0830  
End Date/Time: Enter 22 Jul 99 1630  
Tuition Costs: \$675

*For more information, call Karin Hancock, 410-306-0065, or send e-mail to Karin.Hancock@cpocner.apg.army.mil.*



Photo by NEAL SNYDER

**Lt. Col. Thomas M. Frendak, USAEC chief of staff, describes how the center supports the Army's Range XXI initiative to students in the Engineer for a Day program.**

## Engineers serve as mentors for students

**ENGINEERS, from front page**

“I think it gave them a pretty good idea of what an engineer does,” he said, adding that at the water treatment plant, “they saw different processes and got to see how an engineer designed it.”

Josephson found his student partner, Shaun Robinson, a Bel Air High School Junior, “a very interesting person. He’s thinking about his future.”

Robinson, who plans to be an architect or civil engineer, said he found the day worthwhile.

“I got a lot of the information I was looking forward to getting,” he said. The program “gave you kind of a whole atmosphere of engineering. I got to see a lot of different types of engineering fields.”



Photos by NEAL SNYDER

Both Josephson and Robinson were most impressed by the water treatment plant.

“It combined all aspects of engineering, from civil engineering to electrical engineering to hydroengineering,” Robinson explained. “The water plant brought together everything we had been learning all day.”

Josephson answered many questions, Robinson said.

“I was asking quite a bit about college and things to look forward to next year,” he added. “I didn’t know they had a work study program for engineering, but [he told me] most colleges offer it.”

**CHPPM physicist Shawn Sparks explains the uses of lasers.**

This is Josephson’s third year as an Engineer for a Day sponsor.

“I enjoy working with these students,” he said. “They’re bright and they have a lot of ambition. They want to know what their careers will be like.”

“I guess everyone should care about younger people and take the time to show them what we think is worthwhile,” Josephson said. “The world needs more engineers, and it needs more engineers to encourage young people to become engineers.”

# Army to offer opportunities for more recruits with GED’s

**GED, from front page**

and that initiative can translate into success in the Army.”

A small task force under Henry is trying to isolate attributes, qualifications and skills that will identify those potential recruits with GEDs who are most likely to be successful in the Army, an official said.

Life experience such as jobs, scouting, and volunteer work may be taken into account, he said, to see if these play a factor in demonstrating one’s potential for retention.

The task force may look at other research, he said, such as a study being conducted now by the Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences.

ARI developed a test to measure motivation among recruits. Called the Assessment of Individual Motivation, or AIM, the test has been administered to about 20,000 recruits so far. About 2,000 of these recruits have GEDs, researchers said.

Some researchers envision the AIM being used to help screen potential recruits. The test results might be combined with other criteria and experience, officials said, to help identify those candidates who are highly motivated and likely to succeed in the Army.

Under a current Department of Defense policy, no more than 10 percent of recruits can be GED holders. Officials said if the Army wants to accept more than 10 percent, Caldera would request relief from DoD regulatory restrictions.

**“You don’t have to have a diploma to serve your country and perform an act of valor above and beyond.”**

**-SFC Louis Rocco**

Recruiting more GED holders was a topic of discussion at the Army’s first Hispanic Leadership Summit held Jan. 13 in San Antonio, Texas.

Participants at the summit included Congressmen Ciro Rodriguez and Charlie Gonzalez, both of Texas; and Gil Coronado, director of the Selective Service System. Coronado dropped out of school at age 15 and joined the military. He later went on to receive a GED and retired from the service as a colonel.

“The military opened more doors in my life than I ever thought existed,” Coronado said.

Coronado explained that the military “provides a level playing field in which you meet people from walks of life that you might never have been able to meet were it not for the military. It’s truly one of the best experiences a young person can have for laying a successful foundation to his or her life,” he said.

Rodriguez, who represents the San Antonio district, said research has identified seven reasons why students drop out of high school.

“One of those is academic,” Rodriguez said. “The other six are not.”

Rodriguez said many Hispanic students drop out of high school to help support their families. These young people deserve an opportunity to enlist in the Army.

“I think that the Army is an institution that should not write off people in America who need a second chance,” Caldera said.

A number of top Army NCOs have been GED holders, said Army personnel officials, including two former sergeants major of the Army.

One example of a GED holder who achieved success was Medal of Honor recipient Louis Rocco, who dropped out of high school, earned a GED and associate’s degree while in the Army. He was commissioned a warrant officer before leaving the Army, and now is a counseling therapist at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in San Antonio.

As a sergeant first class, Rocco earned the Medal of Honor in Vietnam in 1970 for carrying eight injured soldiers across 20 meters of exposed terrain under fire. He did this despite having a broken wrist, fractured hip and severely burned hands suffered moments earlier when his helicopter was shot down on the way to pick up the wounded.

“You don’t have to have a diploma to serve your country and perform an act of valor above and beyond,” Rocco said.

## LIBRARY CORNER

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Libraries have new books. Check out what’s available at the two branches on post.

**African American Military Heroes,** by Jim Haskins.

**The American Century,** by Harold Evans.

**The Anti-Aging Zone,** by Barry Sears.

**Direct from Dell,** by Michael Dell.

**Every Investor’s Guide to High-Tech Stocks and Mutual Funds,** by Michael Murphy.

**Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex but Were Afraid to Ask: All New Edition,** by David R. Reuben.

**The Individual Investor Revolution,** by Charles B. Carlson

**New York, New Jersey, & Pennsylvania: A Lonely Planet Travel Survival Kit.**

**Playing for Keeps: Michael Jordan and the World He Made,** by David Halberstam.

**The Prince of Egypt: A New Vision in Animation.**

The Aberdeen Area Library is located at building 3320 on Aberdeen Boulevard, and is open Monday-Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. It is closed Thursday and Friday.

The Edgewood Area Library is located at building E-4405 on Austin Road, and is open Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. It is closed Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.



# COMING UP...

## THURSDAY MARCH 4 ITEA MEETING

John V. Bolino, vice president of the International Test and Evaluation Association, will speak to the Francis Scott Key Chapter of ITEA at the Old Baltimore Room, Top of the Bay, 11:30 a.m. His subject will be “What ITEA Can Do For You.” If you plan to attend, call David Phillips, 410-278-8643 (or e-mail dphillip@atc.army.mil).

## FRIDAY MARCH 5 WORK-FORCE BRIEFINGS

Three work-force briefings for all APG Garrison employees are scheduled. Two will be held at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, from 9-10 a.m. and 10:15-11:15 a.m. The third will be held at the Post Theater in the Aberdeen Area from 1-2 p.m. Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of the Soldier and Biological Chemical Command and APG, will be introduced. Col. Robert J. Spidel, APG Garrison commander, will present a garrison and Commercial Activities Study update. For more information call the CA Core Team at 410-278-4800.

## TAKETWO STEPS

Learn country western dancing at American Legion Post 128, sponsored by the Harford County Country/Western Dance Association. Beginner Cha-Cha will be taught from 8:15-8:45 p.m. and the Palomino Stroll partner dance will be taught from 9:30-10 p.m. Cost is \$10 for non-members, \$8 for members.

## MONDAY MARCH 8 FCC INTERVIEWS

Interviews for Family Child Care training are being held through March 11, for training to be held March 15-19. Applicants interested in providing home-based child care are encouraged to apply. Call 410-278-8720.

## TUESDAY MARCH 9 TRAIN THE TRAINER

The Army Community Service

Relocation Office will offer unit sponsorship training (Train the Trainer Program), 9:30-11:30 a.m., building 2754 conference room. The training will provide guidance to personnel who might serve as the unit point of contact for sponsorship. Provide names of personnel selected to Marilyn Howard, relocation manager, ACS, STEAP-CF-FA, building 2754, 410-278-3137, fax 410-278-4448.

## NCMA MEETING

“Innovative Contracting: Practical Approaches” will be held at the Gunpowder Club Heron Room in the EA, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., by the National Contract Management Association (NCMA), a not-for-profit organization of government and industry contract professionals. The fee is \$145 for NCMA members, \$195 for non-members. Lunch and refreshments are included. To register, contact Howard Nason at 410-278-5287 or e-mail to: APG@EDSICorp.com. The seminar will be taught by Philip E. Salmeri and Charles Solloway. For information about NCMA call (800) 344-8096, ext. 438, or see the website at <http://www.ncmahq.org>.

## WEDNESDAY MARCH 10 JOINT LUNCHEON

The EA Officers’ Wives Club invites members of the EA-OWC and the Military and Civilian Spouses Club to the annual joint luncheon. The guest speaker will be Mary Jo Reimer, wife of the Army chief of staff. The luncheon will be held at the Holiday Inn Susquehanna Room, Aberdeen. Social time will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch at noon. Entree choices are honey-baked chicken breast for \$11, or stuffed flounder for \$12.25. Both will be served with salad, roasted potatoes, vegetable medley, rolls and chocolate peanut butter mousse cake. For reservations, call Rosemary Kramp, 410-569-7167.

## LOCAL HISTORY

Robert Magee, executive director of the Susquehanna Museum of Havre de Grace, will present “The Burning of Havre de Grace: What’s the

Real Story?” at the Havre de Grace Middle School Media Center, 7 p.m. The free lecture, is open to the public. For information, call 410-939-5780.

## SATURDAY MARCH 13 HOE DOWN

The EA Officers’ Wives Club invites the public to a hoe down at the Gunpowder Club. Doors open at 6 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and dancing from 7:30-10 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person, and includes a chicken dinner with dessert and beverage. A professional caller will give instruction with the country-western dancing, including a mix of line dancing and square dancing. Buy tickets by March 10 from Diane Payne, 410-676-1524, or Mary Lesniak, 410-272-4363.

## PWOC BUILDS FAMILIES

Protestant Women of the Chapel will present “Together in Grace: Family Relationships,” led by Lt. Col. and Mrs. Bill Mahr, 10 a.m., Post Chapel. Free child care is provided.

## FRIDAY MARCH 19 TICK INFO

Aberdeen Test Center will sponsor an hour-long public information session on tick-borne diseases at the Post Theater, 9:30 a.m. Sandra Evans, a biologist with the U.S. Army Center for Health Protection and Preventive Medicine, will discuss local tick-borne diseases and protection. Dr. Donald Wallace, chief of Preventive Medicine and Occupational Health at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, will focus on the new Lyme disease vaccine and Army policy for administration. All are invited to attend. For information, contact Ann Carney, 410-278-8806.

## BASKET BINGO

The APG Military and Civilian Spouses Club (MCSC) is sponsoring “Basket Bingo” to benefit its scholarship and welfare funds, 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.), Aberdeen Fire Hall. Cost is \$10 and seats are limited to paid ticket holders. Prizes will be Longaberger baskets. Door prizes, raffles and special 21st game (\$1) will be featured.

Tickets are available at the APG Thrift Shop or by calling Amy Carlson, 410-273-0525, Becky Cornforth, 410-676-3522, or Maggie Hardy, 410-272-8927. For tickets by mail, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with check or money order payable to MCSC to: MCSC, P.O. Box 752, APG, MD 21005.

## COMMUNITY FIRST AID

The APG American Red Cross will hold a Community First Aid and Safety Course, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m., building 2477. Upon completion you will be certified in first aid for three years and community CPR for one year. For details call 410-278-2087.

## TUESDAY MARCH 23 RECRUITMENT

The U.S. Army Warrant Officer Recruiting Team will hold briefings at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at the Post Theater. The aviation program is open to all qualified service members regardless of military occupational specialty or rank, while all other warrant officer MOS’s are open to E-5’s and above who meet select criteria. Applications are accepted from all branches of the Armed Forces.

## SATURDAY MARCH 27 DECOY SHOW

The American Red Cross will sponsor a Decoy and Waterfowl Show and Auction, 10 a.m.-7 p.m, Bel Air High School. Admission is \$3 for adults, free for those under age 15 with adult. Festivities include food, music, working displays and collections, as well as decoys and waterfowl art for sale. All proceeds will benefit the American Red Cross. For more information, call 410-879-6984.

## MONDAY APRIL 5 FEEL BETTER

A Look Good ... Feel Better program will be held at 7 p.m., at the Oncology Center at Riverside, 1200 Brass Mill Rd., Belcamp. This free program is sponsored by the American Cancer Society to help all women undergoing cancer treatment deal with the cosmetic side-effects of chemotherapy and radiation. B. Ramsey Bane will be the trained cosmetologist leading the program. To register, call the American

Cancer Society at 1-888-ACS-NEED (1-888-227-6333).

## TUESDAY APRIL 6 TOWN HALL MEETING

The Town Hall Meeting will be held 10:30 a.m.-noon, AA Recreation Center. Col. Robert

Spidel, APG Garrison commander, and his staff will answer questions. All APG military, civilians, retirees and family members are invited to share ideas or offer suggestions on how to improve quality of life at APG. For more information, call 410-278-5469.

## MOVIES

### VIRUS

**Friday, March 5, 7 p.m.**  
**Saturday, March 6, 9 p.m.**  
**Starring: Jamie Lee Curtis, William Baldwin**

A deadly alien virus infects the crew of a Russian ship. The virus then tries to affect the crew of an American ship that tries to help. (Rated R)

### A CIVIL ACTION

**Saturday, March 6, 7 p.m.**  
**Starring: John Travolta, Robert Duvall**

An attorney agrees to represent eight families whose children died from leukemia after two corporations leaked toxic chemicals into the water supply of Woburn, Mass., although the case could mean financial and professional suicide. (Rated PG-13)

## LEAVE DONATION

These employees are eligible to receive donations through the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program:

Michael Alexander (wife has cancer);  
Lena Blethen;  
John Boyle (surgery);  
Barbara Breithaupt (multiple sclerosis);  
Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant);  
Alberta Brown (mother ill);  
Daniel Brown (father has emphysema);  
Linda Brown (diabetic);  
Sheila Cassidy (mother has cancer);  
Cara Coe (maternity);  
Dawn Crouse (surgery);  
Tamara Dawson (maternity);  
Dennis Green;  
Herman Hensley;  
Gordon Herron (Wife has cancer)  
Joseph Hill (heart problems);  
Judy Hunt (arthropathy);  
Eldon Jerome James (lung cancer and brain tumor);  
Marcia Johnson (Down’s Syndrome child requires surgery);  
Mary Johnson (surgery);  
Marlin Julian (heart surgery);  
Jennifer Keetley (maternity);  
Tracey Kerney (surgery);  
Beverly King (caring for husband);  
Barbara LaGrange (Hodgkins Disease);  
Patricia LaGrange;  
Sherrie Laury (heart problems);  
Dolores “Dee” McGrogan (back problems);  
Susan Naccarato (carpal tunnel syndrome);  
Lesley Parker (daughter has seizures);  
Cathleen (Higgins) Perry;  
Churon Ringgold;  
Mary Lee Samples (lymphoma cancer);  
John Sheppard (colon cancer);  
Rita Sluder (mother has cancer);  
Walter Taylor (auto accident);  
Lavonne Telsee (caring for daughter);  
Joseph Walker (Wife has cancer)  
Cecelia Walton (respiration problems);  
Kenneth Weathers (medical);  
Frank Winters (surgery).

For information about donating annual leave; call Cheryl Gatling; 410-278-8978; or send a fax to 410-278-8839.

## MWR UPDATE

### MWR in March

The following events are coming up this month:

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 6     | Basic Framing Class AA Framing Shop  |
| 6     | Wood Shop Orientation, EA Arts and Crafts  |
| 10    | Post Racquetball Championships, 7 p.m., APG Athletic Center  |
| 13    | Ceramic Pouring Class, EA Arts & Crafts  |
| 13-15 | Intramural Basketball Post-Season Tournament (Championship game and awards ceremony March 15, 6 p.m.)  |
| 16-22 | Intramural Basketball All Star Tournament with dunk and 3-point shot competition (Tournament Championships and awards ceremony March 22, 6 p.m.) |
| 23-29 | Intramural Volleyball Pre-Season Tournament (Tournament Championship and awards, March 29, starting at 6 p.m.)                                   |
| 25    | Framing Class, EA Arts & Crafts  |
| 27    | Opening Day Scramble and awards, Ruggles Golf Course   |
| 28    | Golf tournament, low net, gross-birdies, Ruggles Golf Course   |
| 30    | Intramural Volleyball regular season begins  |
| 31    | Intramural Bowling Post-Season Championship and award ceremony   |
| 31    | Entry deadline for Paint Ball Festival.  |

### Exercise at fitness center

Have you been looking for an Aerobic Program on post? The Aberdeen Area Health and Fitness Center in building 320 is the place to go. The first class is free. All our instructors are certified. Step classes are held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 9-10 a.m.; toning classes are held Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 10-10:30 p.m.; and

step and tone classes are held Mondays and Wednesdays, 4-5 p.m., and Mondays-Thursdays, 5-6 p.m. Stop in or call for information on any program. If you purchase a Fitness Pass, you can use any of the facilities in both areas of the post and participate in the programs offered. If your unit or organization is interested in a PT aerobics class call the center for information, 410-278-9725/9759. The center is open Monday-Thursday, 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon.

### EA Arts and Crafts offers classes

**Ceramic Pouring:** If you would like to learn to pour your own greenware and make beautiful ceramic gifts and decorations a beginning ceramic pouring class will be held March 13, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$7 plus supplies. Registration is required.

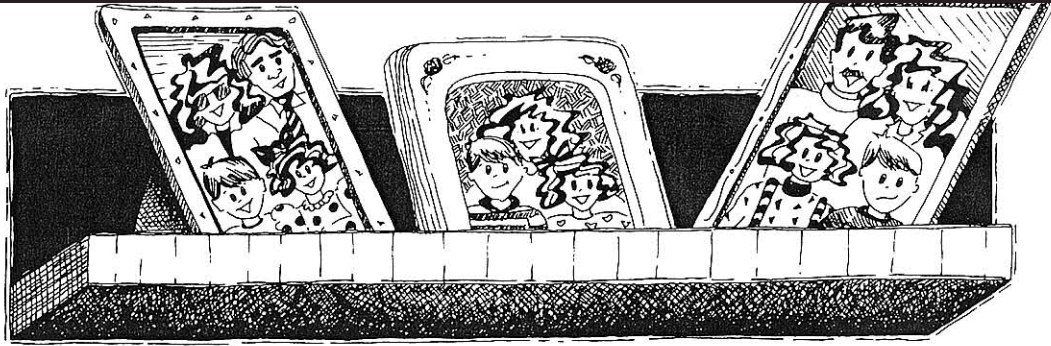
**Framing Class:** A beginning Matting and Framing Class will be held March 25, 5:30-9 p.m. The cost of the class is \$15 plus supplies, which run around \$40. Students must bring an 8x10-inch picture to frame. Registration is required. If you would like professional advice and picture framing bring it to the experts for framing. We will do it for you at a great savings! For an estimate bring your pictures to building E-4440 during our hours of operation.

**Ceramic bisqueware and greenware for sale:** The center has a large selection of ceramic items available and ready to paint and decorate immediately, including carousel horses, ceramic fountains, vases, holiday decorations and gift idea. Stop by building E-4440 on Thursdays, 1-9 p.m., or Fridays and Saturdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., or call 410-436-2153.

### Paint Ball coming to APG

Outdoor Recreation will sponsor a Paint Ball Festival on April 24 at the Maryland Boulevard Picnic Area. There will be a five-person tournament for experienced paint ballers with cash prizes and a three-on-three competition for newcomers. There will also be target shooting available. If you have not yet tried this sport, here is your chance. All gear and safety equipment will be available on site for your use. For more information contact Charles Heinsohn at 410-278-4124/5789. Spaces are limited.

## HEALTHY LIFESTYLE CHOICES '99



# KIDS AND REMARRIAGE

If you plan to remarry, this can be a time of fear, uncertainty, and jealousy for your children. You can make it easier on them, though.

If you have started dating again after a break-up and sense a possibility of marriage, be confident that your child can have a meaningful and healthy relationship with that person also. However, children will not readily understand the changing family dynamics. Here are a few things you can do to ease your child's mind and foster healthy family relationships.

### Reaffirm Roles

An important first step to take when a new person comes into your family's life is to clearly define and set parameters for this potentially new authority figure. Make sure all family members—children, ex-spouse, and new spouse—know and are comfortable with each other's roles in the family. If the other natural parent is completely out of the picture, perhaps the new spouse will be the “new” mommy or daddy, with all of the rights and responsibilities which go along with that role. If the ex-spouse is still actively involved with the child's upbringing, regularly reaffirm the position of that parent with the child and if necessary, the new mate. A child can easily become confused with two mommies or two daddies, and hostilities can develop between parents and spouses if family members' roles are not clearly communicated.

### A Change In Behavior

Sometimes kids will exhibit extreme emotional swings and behave badly when a parent remarries. These moods can be a sign that they don't fully understand what's happening, and call for some explanations and extra understanding. Having a new “parent” around can create feelings of jealousy, and even pose a threat in the child's mind as to the security of his position within the family. He needs to know that he is safe, and that the family foundation is still secure. Also, with the excitement of a marriage, and the increased attention new spouses show each other, a child may feel left out and want more attention. This doesn't mean that you should excuse bad behavior, but be sensitive to the underlying causes of the behavior.

### Strike Down Stereotypes

Kids whose parents have remarried may also compare their family to other “normal” families and find theirs wanting. They may question why they can't have a family like everyone else's: a *real* mommy and a *real* daddy living together in one house. Try explaining to them that families are never the same, that some have a lot of kids, some have none; some live with grandparents or cousins; and some have two parents; but others, like your's, have three. Encourage them to see every family as a special group. The important thing is not how many people a family has, or who lives in the house, but that each person loves and cares for the others.





# Post washracks offer environmentally responsible way to rid testing vehicles of dirt and grime

By **Lisa McDermott**  
*Dynamac Corporation*

When the day is done and the dust settles, Aberdeen Proving Ground’s tracked and wheeled test vehicles make their way to a washrack for a good bath. Several of the older washracks around APG have finished their tour of duty and the new recruits are moving in.

The washrack systems contain the dirt and grime that is washed away from the vehicles. To keep up with Army testing requirements, the washrack systems are being upgraded or replaced and pollution prevention initiatives are being implemented.

The new systems not only clean the water, but recirculate it in a closed-loop system, so that it can be used again and again. The recirculated water plays a major role in reducing water consumption. According to Keisha Harris, consultant, Dynamac Corporation, “APG started construction on the washracks in 1995. Two have been replaced, one has been retrofitted and one is currently being retrofitted. There are two more slated for construction in 1999,” she said.

The older washrack systems are composed of a washing basin, a sediment basin, and an oil/water separator that filters out the silt and rock and anything that may not be environmentally friendly such as oil or lubricants. There is also another sediment area in the system, such as an earth pond. The water cleaned in the system is

then either sent to the sanitary sewer or discharged to surface water and the oil is pumped from the oil/water separator and disposed or stored in an underground storage tank for later disposal

“Several of the older washrack systems were failing and needed to be replaced. The new washrack systems actually eliminate the risk of pollutants entering the waterways,” explained Michael Kanowitz, water program manager. “The amount of water entering the wastewater treatment plants is also a concern.”

He added that one of the older washracks had to be shut down because it contributed to “excursions” at the plant - the point at which water entering the plant exceeds the plant’s capability to treat it.

The washrack system located at building 525 was the first system to capture, treat and recirculate the wastewater, therefore eliminating the discharge to the state’s waterways.

Harris explained there are two types of new washrack systems. One, which is encapsulated and contains the washing and recycling processes in the same build-

ing, primarily is for vehicles that travel on paved test tracks and improved terrain. The other process separates the washing and recycling. The washing takes place outside or in a shed and the water is sent to a settling pond where the solids settle out. From there, the water goes to an oil/water separator, then finally to another settling pond or storage tank where it will be pumped out for the next wash. This process is designed for vehicles that travel on dirt, gravel or mud and that have larger solids to settle out.

In a typical wash at the building 338 washrack system, which is encapsulated, approximately 150 gallons of water is recycled per wash and each wash lasts about 30 minutes. This is water that used to be sent to the wastewater treatment plants. In May 1993 both plants received a notice of violation for excursions.

Kanowitz said part of the corrective action plan is to reduce the plant’s inflow and infiltration, including water from the washracks. The new washrack systems and the quality upgrades are helping to make testing and washing a more environmentally friendly process.



Photo by RALPH BROTH

**Wayne Reynolds of Aberdeen Test Center uses the new washrack system at building 338 to clean this Bradley Fighting Vehicle after a day of testing.**

## Volunteers needed at many sites

***VOLUNTEERS, from front page***  
administrative assistant positions. Volunteer will assist the post residential supervisor with managing and monitoring the administrative functions of the Post Residential Department. The position requires 30 hours per week, for five months or longer. For information on qualifications call Harry Ballard, 410-306-1807.

The American Red Cross is looking for a few good volunteers. A volunteer at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is needed to provide reporting and communication to volunteers and supervisors at the clinic. On-the-job training is provided.

A logistics volunteer for KUSAHC is also needed to provide support to the property book officer.

A volunteer is needed at the Red Cross Main Office for clerical support to the installation services specialist and installation chairman for the American Red Cross. On-the-job training is provided.

For information on positions for the American Red Cross, call Carolyn Lerwill, 410-278-2087.

The Installation Volunteer Office is looking for the office support of three volunteers.

A newsletter coordinator is needed to publish a quarterly Installation Volunteer Newsletter promoting volunteer programs and initiatives. Duties include determining scope and layout of newsletter; interviewing volunteer organizations; and preparing for distribution. Good organizational and word processing skills are a must.

Two office support volunteers are needed to provide telephone and clerical support for the volunteer office. Jobs may vary according to position.

For more information on volunteer positions in the volunteer Office, call Alice Surette, at 410-278-5469.

The APG libraries are also looking for volunteers to support the library program. A library technician and aide are needed for general library practices and procedures. On-the-job training is available.

For more information on volunteering for the APG libraries, call Tina Pinnix-Broome or Dan Norum, at 410-278-3417.